



Fact Sheet:



California Treatment Outcome Project

The California Department of Alcohol and Drug Program's (ADP) Strategic Plan includes the long-term effort to provide and continually improve alcohol and other drug (AOD) prevention, early intervention and recovery/treatment services to individuals, families, and communities.

Primary to achieving this goal ADP joined 18 other states participating in the federal Treatment Outcomes Performance Pilot Studies (TOPPS II) to develop, implement, and pilot test an automated outcome monitoring system (OMS).

The California Treatment Outcome Project (CalTOP) was developed and designed to track client movement through AOD treatment programs, assess client service needs, record service utilization, assess treatment outcomes and client satisfaction, and determine whether AOD treatment produces cost-offsets in other statewide economic realms.

Forty-four treatment providers in 13 counties volunteered to participate in the project. As of August 2002, there were 15,618 consecutive client treatment admissions entered into the CalTOP database. Findings were derived from a pre and post-treatment evaluation of client functioning in seven life domains: Alcohol, Family/Social, Employment, Drugs, Legal Status, Psychiatric, and Medical.

The University of California Los Angeles (UCLA) Integrated Substance Abuse Programs (ISAP) Researchers conducted interviews with a subset of clients at 3 months and 9 months after admission to treatment. The research and analysis were also conducted by UCLA/ISAP.

CalTOP Findings

- Rates and frequency of AOD use declined after treatment.
- Employment rates improved after treatment.
- Problems related to family and social relationships, medical status, psychiatric status and legal status show significant improvement.
- Complementary findings were derived from other state administrative databases.
- Standardized tools provide consistent assessment of the clients' needs and provide a baseline for outcome measurement.

CalTOP successfully demonstrated that development of a statewide OMS to enhance ADP's current management information systems is feasible and appropriate. Including lessons learned during the CalTOP pilot, ADP is pursuing development of the statewide California Outcomes Measurement System (CalOMS).

CalOMS will provide ADP and policy makers on local, state and federal levels with the information necessary to improve treatment delivery systems and document the economic and societal benefits of AOD treatment.

A copy of the CalTOP report can be found at <http://www.uclaisap.org/caltop>.